GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

Prepared Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(Founded in 1888 for the Increase and Diffusion of Geographic Knowledge)
General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

for

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Education

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THE SKELETON OF THE NEW CRESTED DINOSAUR (See Bulletin No. 5)

This is an unusually complete skeleton more than thirty feet long, with the impression of the skin still preserved on the under side. In this type of "duck bill" the skull was surmounted by a high, curved crest, like that of a cassowary. The end of the tail was exposed, giving a clue to the skeleton.

HOW TO OBTAIN THE BULLETIN

The Geographic News Bulletin is prepared and printed by the National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.

The Bulletins will be sent direct to teachers, upon application, or superintendents and principals may apply for teachers. In the latter method of ordering names of teachers must accompany the request, to avoid duplication. Only one copy per teacher can be supplied.

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Manila: The Kansas City of the Philippines

IN connection with the continued discussion of independence for the Philippines the capital city of the islands, Manila, becomes of special interest.

As a transport wends inward from the China Sea, it passes the island of Corregidor beyond which stretches Manila Bay, whose 120-mile circumference could surround the navies of the world. Its rival will not be found in the Far East. On the right of its entrance stands Cavite, where Dewey sank the Spanish fleet.

"Manana" the Watchword Before Americans Came

From the bay the city of Manila seems to lie almost at water level with hazy mountains for a background. Before the United States came to the islands Manila was a sleepy town, sprawled lazily beyond the bay and the wharves of the river Pasig, which bisects it. Its streets were quiet and almost deserted at times, its suburbs shady and pretty, and a general air of "manana" pervaded its atmosphere.

Today its estimated population equals that of Jersey City, Indianapolis, or Kansas City, Missouri; the river is alive with launches and vessels of every description, including the houseboats of a literally floating population of fifteen thousand; and through its port it sends yearly to other countries nearly a hundred million dollars' worth of hemp, sugar, copra, tobacco, and other commodities.

Price of Shoes Means Nothing in Poorer Native's Life

The natives are alert and have something of the Spaniard's suave manner. Many have adopted the American fashion of dress, but some of the native men of the lower class still wear the white cotton trousers and a transparent shirt that hangs on the outside. The women adhere to the wide-sleeved, narrow-shirted native costume in bright colors. The vaulting price of shoes has in no wise ruffled poorer classes in Manila. They have solved the problem simply; they don't wear any. And the children! The Creator and the sun have given them a lovely brown tint.

There is much of interest to be seen in this town that is vying with Hongkong for the commercial supremacy of the East. The traveler will find local color on the south side of the river in the walled city, or Intramuros, one of the finest examples of a fortified city of the seventeenth century, with its narrow and Spanish-looking streets, the houses with barred windows, the quaint corners, and the vistas through open courtyards. There are to be found nipa bungalows of the natives, the quaint old residential palace of the Governor, now used for an office building, and the happy, idle people themselves. In this section the churches include the imposing, relatively new Cathedral, the Gothic Santo Domingo, the Jesuit Church with its museum,

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A RUSSIAN PEASANT GIRL SPINNING: UKRAINE (See Bulletin No. 4)

The women of the Ukraine are especially fond of bright colors, and one of the features of the native costume is the necklace of varihued beads. The industrial development of the Ukraine region has provided a cheap method of producing cloth, so that the home spinning-wheel and the loom gradually began to disappear a decade or more ago.

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What's in the Name "America"

MILLIONS sing "America"; comparatively few know the origin of the name. Its history and its symbolism are described in a communication to the National Geographic Society by John H. Finley, as follows:

"'America'—a name that was first heard on the planet, or at any rate first put on a printed page, according to the best authorities, in the village of St. Die, among the Vosges Mountains, in the east of France, often called the baptismal font of America.

"On a pilgrimage to this valley of the Vosges some years ago, I found still standing the cloisters where the scholars had lived who wrote 'The Introduction to Ptolemy's Cosmography,' the book in which it was suggested that the name 'America' be given to the newly discovered fourth continent, and who prepared the now famous map on which the emerging continent was identified. There, too, I found the site of the old printing shop, and the house itself in which the printer, Jean Basin, had lived.

German Guns Pointed at Birthplace of America's Name

"At the beginning of the war the Germans had occupied it, and, in 1917, their guns looked down upon it from the 'blue line of the Vosges.' The cloisters, close under the mountains, I found in a recent and second pilgrimage had not been damaged, but there were many houses that had been destroyed by shell or by wanton fire, though Jean Basin's was still standing.

"But the printer who a few years ago reproduced in facsimile the famous book had had both legs shot off while crossing the bridge one day between the two parts of the village. 'Alas!' he said, when he learned that he must die, 'alas! I shall not be the first to carry flowers to Strassburg,' for he had dreamed of the day when Strassburg, where rests one of the original copies of this famous book, again would be within French borders.

"It is a significant fact that while this name 'America' was suggested in a geographical treatise in which the earth was considered the center of the universe, there was at the moment of the first printing of the name a Polish scholar, Kopernik (Copernicus), who was developing a new system of astronomy, a new cosmography, whose substitution for the Ptolemaic creed of the universe was to be the 'capital event of modern thought.'

Man's Conscious Relationship to the Universe

"To be sure, there was no visible change. But a change in man's conscious relationship to the physical universe came, and it is inconceivable that it did not affect in its coming his whole life upon the earth.

"Europe could not readily forget the geography of its infancy and childhood, but America began from its God-fearing settlement with an astronomy of infinite distances, with a cosmography in which it was itself but infinitesimal, with a geography partaking of the sky as well as of the sea and land.

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and the old Augustinian Church completed in 1605, which has withstood the storms and earthquakes of the centuries.

Must Pay Rent for Tomb or Body Is Ejected

A unique sight in Manila is the Paco cemetery, which at present has fallen into disuse. It is composed of two concentric walls about six feet thick, honeycombed with holes, just large enough for a coffin. In the olden days these were leased for periods of five years. At the end of that time if no one was sufficiently interested in the remains of an inmate to pay his rent for another five years, his bones were thrown on a heap at the back of the cemetery. Imagine the "shimmy" the flesh on an ancestor-worshipping Chinaman's backbone would perform should he behold the queue of one of his progenitors protruding from this Golgotha!

Out from the Walled City near the bay shore is Luneta, a small amusement park, and Wallace Field, used for sports and the annual carnival. In the days of Spanish rule Wallace Field was an execution ground for political prisoners, and here Dr. Jose Rizal, the Filipino surgeon, novelist, and patriot, was executed.

Manila's chief shopping district is north of the river, and enterprising Filipinos, Americans and Chinese have set up stores, banks, factories, and restaurants, giving this portion of the city an up-and-doing air. Advertisements of American-made products and ice-cream placards and soda-water lures familiarly greet the thirsty American.

From a drawing by Charles R. Knight

A COMMON SIGHT IN NORTH AMERICA MILLIONS OF YEARS AGO (See Bulletin No. 5)

The most extraordinary feature of this animal was the row of thin plates on either side of the median line, and also the long and heavily armed tail.

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Barbados: A Ghost Story Island of Vast Material Resources

BARBADOS is one of the most interesting and less well-known of the possessions of Great Britain.

Pear-shaped, solitary, farthest east of the West Indies, Barbados generally is accounted the most healthful of the group, even though it is the most populous country in the world, per square mile, except China, and though George Washington carried to his grave the marks of the smallpox contracted on a visit there.

The island—there is but one despite the misleading plural name—is but an eighth the size of our Rhode Island, but has twice as many inhabitants per square mile as our smallest and most densely populated State.

Volcanoes Helped Make Island Soil Fertile

Seldom does a volcano become an asset. Volcanic eruptions have contributed largely to the fertility of Barbados. When the sun was obscured throughout one day in May, 1902, the Barbadans were panic-stricken, but when the gentle rain of black dust subsided, the deposit was found to be ashes from an eruption of St. Vincent Soufriere, nearly 100 miles to the west, which enriched the soil.

Long before that time, though, Barbados was productive. Oldest of British colonial possessions except Newfoundland, it also was the first place in the British Empire where sugar cane was planted. Its average crop of this now high-priced commodity is 50,000 tons. It also has 2,000 acres planted in sea-island or long-staple cotton; raises 40,000 bunches yearly of the Chinese banana, and exports molasses.

There are no volcanoes on Barbados; nor are there any streams of appreciable size. Water seeps through the porous soil and reaches the sea by underground channels. Bathers at Freshwater Bay are apt to experience a rocking sensation on the surf sands, like that at some of the trick amusement devices of Coney Island or Luna Park. The undulations underfoot mark the outlets, below sea level, of these subterranean streams.

Has a Ghost Story That Needs Explaining

One phenomenon of Barbados has not been accounted for. For years the so-called "Barbados Coffin Story" furnished a mystery which would interest present-day psychic investigators. In the yard of a church near Oistin's Town is a churchyard burial vault, hewn from rock and arched with cemented stone. A woman was buried there in a lead coffin, according to Barbadan custom. Several years later, when the vault was opened again to receive another body, the coffin had been removed from its original position. Upon the second occasion special precautions were taken to seal the vault. Several times thereafter, though seals were unbroken, and there seemed no other mode of entering the solid rock and masonry, the coffins were displaced.

America Began Its Geography on the Right Track

"As there was no feudal system of society for America to unlearn, beginning as it did with the 'compact' and 'constitution,' so there was no physical theory of the universe for it to abandon. It was democratic and Copernican from its first national consciousness.

"With this Copernican consciousness of the universe, America should be the least provincial of the continents, for Asia and Africa, as well as Europe, still remember the old cosmography and in some darker regions still cling to it.

"And as the New World continent should be the least provincial, so should those for whom the United States has appropriated the name 'Americans' be the most strongly 'universe-minded' of all the inhabitants of this continent."

Bulletin No. 2, November 8, 1920

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What Is the Ukraine?

IN the heart of the Ukrainian territory Poles and Ukrainians participated in a struggle with the Bolsheviki.

"What is the Ukraine? The Poles and the Lithuanians of a few centuries ago knew well this most turbulent section over which they attempted to rule, and Imperial Russia for a long time was greatly troubled by this very unruly part of her expansive domain. The Tatars and the Turks felt its proximity because of the many raids made upon them by the wild warriors of the steppes," says Nevin O. Winter in a communication to the National Geographic Society.

"The Ukraine, or little Russia, has had a troublesome career. The wild Scythians helped to feed ancient Greece and her colonies from these same endless steppes whence Germany expected to draw sustenance. A thousand years ago Kiev was already becoming an important place. When the Saxons still ruled England, in the long ago, the banks of the Dnieper were a meeting-place for many races, drawn thither by commerce. Religious differences had not yet arisen, for all were worshippers of idols. Even then a Slav people were safely established here, sowing and reaping their harvests and sending their surplus grain down the river to the Black Sea.

Name Means "Border Marches"

"The name Ukraine means 'border marches.' For centuries it was the bulwark that protected Poland and Lithuania from the Tatars, Turks, and other migrating Orientals. As a result it has had cruel taskmasters.

"The native population was largely Cossacks—a wild and unruly people at that time. They were not originally a tribe, but were men who went forth into the wilderness to find freedom. The vast steppes, covered with grass to the height of a horse, within which a multitude of game lurked, lured them on.

"There were Poles and Lithuanians and Russians and even Turks among them. They became marvelous shots, riders, and swimmers; their horses were famous for their swiftness and endurance. Their differences gradually blended in a unity of purpose and principle.

Region Includes Southeastern Russia, Except Bessarabia

"The Ukraine includes southeastern Russia, with the exception of the province known as Bessarabia, which partakes of the character of the Balkan States and is peopled with Rumanians and Bulgarians. The great seaport of Odessa and surrounding country have been added to it under the new alignment.

"The Ukraine does not reach much north of Kiev or east of Kharkov, but it is a large State in itself, about as large as the former German Empire, with some twenty-five or thirty millions of people living in it.

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Finally the mouth of the vault was cemented, and when it was time to receive another body, officials of the island and an immense crowd gathered for the ceremony. Once more all the leaden caskets were found to have been disturbed and the family had their dead removed to another burying ground. No satisfactory solution of these strange occurrences has been offered.

Held a Lottery to Build Cathedral

Bridgetown, the island capital, is a hot, dusty city of about 30,000 people. It is especially busy on Fridays when planters flock to town for business and buying. Its Cathedral was built principally by funds obtained from a lottery authorized by the legislature, after the original building had been blown down by a hurricane in 1780.

A natural curiosity of Barbados is the "Animal Flower Cave," the so-called flowers being sea worms. Not so agreeable are the Mauchineel, or poison trees, along the shores, whose leaves blister the skin and contaminate the water.

Labor is so plentiful that men compete with beasts of burden. But this condition was greatly improved by the use of considerable Barbados labor in building the Panama Canal.

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Some Big Game of Three Million Years Ago

SPEAKING of the brontosaurus, if any one ever did, one might paraphrase Gelett Burgess:

"I never saw a dinosaur,
I never hoped to see one."

Yet, according to reports from African explorers, a live dinosaur, a brontosaurus, has been found in Africa.

Now that the dinosaur is with us, potentially, big game enthusiasts will be interested in this description of prehistoric big game, quoted from a communication to the National Geographic Society by Barnum Brown:

"Today we must go to Africa for the biggest game; but there was a time in the dim distant past when America produced animals larger than any now living. That was so long ago that nothing remains of these creatures except their bones, and they are turned to stone.

Reptiles That Walked Upright

"The animals are dinosaurs; for the moment we will call them lizards—not the creeping, crawling kind, but huge reptiles that stalked upright through the jungles, rivaling in size the elephant, the hippopotamus, and the rhinoceros.

"The place is Alberta, Canada, and the time of their existence 3,000,000 years ago.

"In these marshes of prehistoric times dwelt a host of reptiles, some large, some small, and of various forms, flesh-eaters and herb-eaters, but all sharing certain characters in common and known as dinosaurs. Not any were closely related to any living reptile, yet they had some characters common to the lizards, crocodiles, and birds.

"Of the kinds characteristic of the period one species, an herb-eater named Trachodon, was more than 30 feet long and about 15 feet high when standing erect. Its head, with broadly expanded mouth, resembles that of a duck, but back of the beak there are more than 2,000 small teeth, disposed in many vertical rows, each containing several individual teeth, the new ones coming up from below as the old ones wore out.

Took to Water as Natural Defense

"The long hind legs terminated in three large hoofed toes, and the shorter slender front feet were partly webbed. A long, thin, slender tail acted as a powerful swimming organ, and the body was covered with rough tuberculate skin. Having no means of defense, it lived chiefly in the water, where it was free from attacks of the flesh-eaters.

"Along the shores lived Ornithomimus, bird mimic, as the name implies, one of the most remarkable of the dinosaurs. A skeleton found in 1918 shows it to have been a toothless creature, the jaws sheathed like the beak of a bird.

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"The largest city of the real Ukraine is Kiev, around which national life probably centers because of the deep religious associations in connection with the shrines and many holy places. It was at one time the capital of all Russia. Kharkov is the leading commercial town in it, unless Odessa, on the Black Sea, is considered.

Steppe Stretches Suggest Our Western Prairies

"There is a lure about the limitless stretches of the steppes in the Ukraine. In wide, level spaces, or in gentle undulations, they reach out until sky and horizon meet in a barely perceptible line. Parts of it remind one very much of our own western prairies. In spring and summer it is an ocean of verdure, with the varied shades of green of the growing vegetation interspersed with flowers of many hues; later, in the autumn, after the crops are harvested, it becomes a brown waste of stubble and burned-up pastures; in winter it is a white, glistening expanse of snow.

"The unending forest land of the north has disappeared—not suddenly, but by degrees. Most of it is treeless, however, and a feeling of sadness and almost depression involuntarily creeps upon one as he travels over the steppes for the first time.

Towns Are Big, Overgrown Villages

"There are not many old towns in the Ukraine. Except in Kiev and Kharkov, one will hardly find a building more than a hundred years old. No old medieval churches built up by the toil of generations of devout hands, no old chateaux of the nobility, no palaces rich in pictures will be encountered. The great majority of the towns are still big, overgrown villages.

"The towns are separated from each other by enormous distances, with imperfect communication. The peasants plant their villages in the lee of some swell in the surface or by the edge of a stream in which they can water their flocks during the drought which may come."

"The bones were light and pneumatic like those of birds, but the skeleton closely resembles that of the flesh-eating dinosaurs. It was about 12 feet in length, with long, slender hind legs and shorter front legs. This was an agile creature, different from the typical flesh-eaters in feeding habits and doubtless a shore-living type that may have fed on crustaceans.

Had a Skull Six Feet Long

"On land there were hoofed quadrupedal herbivorous kinds, some, like Monoclonius, having an immense skull, six feet in length, with three horns, a short one over each eye and a longer one above the nose. The jaws terminated in a sharp clipping beak, like that of a turtle, and further back in the mouth there were rows of double-rooted teeth. The back of the skull was developed into a broad shield, with scalloped border, extending over the neck. It was ancestral to the later Triceratops.

"Strangest of all was the herbivorous Ankylosaurus, a stocky, short-legged, big-bodied creature, completely encased in armor. Dermal plates covered the skull, followed by rings of plates over the neck and rows of flat plates over the back and hips. Its tail terminated in a huge club, and the belly was covered by a pliable mosaic of small, close-set plates. It was further protected by a movable plate that could be dropped down like a shutter over each eye, thus completing its protection from insects and formidable foes."

Bulletin No. 5, November 8, 1920

Photograph by Nevin O. Winter. Used by permission National Geographic Society, © 1920

A GROUP OF PEASANT WOMEN ON A RELIGIOUS PILGRIMAGE TO KIEV

The Holy City of the Ukraine is visited annually by hundreds of thousands of pilgrims. It is the Jerusalem of the Little Russians. The catacombs, where repose the bodies of saintly recluses, are among Kiev's most sacred places, and here the pious ones kiss the shriveled hands laid out as hallowed relics by the monks. Contagion frequently spreads as a result of this practice.